

Gran Tierra Energy completes two more Work for Taxes projects, investing more than COP\$2 billion to improve food security and school attendance in Puerto Caicedo and Orito, Putumayo

- *Gran Tierra Energy has invested more than COP\$10 billion in Putumayo PDET municipalities throughout the Works for Taxes mechanism since 2020. Projects include the installation of sanitary units for rural families and infrastructure improvements to local schools and rural roads.*
- *Through these two projects more than 12,000 students and teachers will benefit.*
- *This month, Gran Tierra completed two additional projects that will provide enhanced food security for students through the purchase of kitchen equipment and furniture for cafeterias in 152 schools in Puerto Caicedo and Orito.*

Puerto Caicedo, Putumayo, Thursday August 19th. Gran Tierra Energy completed two additional projects through the Works for Taxes (WFT) mechanism in the municipalities of Puerto Caicedo and Orito, Putumayo. The projects provided kitchen equipment including refrigerators, freezers and ovens as well as tables and chairs for 152 school cafeterias. These projects will benefit over 12,000 students and teachers.

The Puerto Caicedo and Orito communities sought these school improvements for their students in order to address a pressing need, an increase in school dropouts because of food insecurity. Many administrators and educators believe that there is a strong connection between the success of a student and food security. The cafeteria upgrades made to the 152 schools supports increased food security for local students, as the participating schools will now have the ability to store and prepare nutritious food, keeping students in school longer.

“Thank you, Gran Tierra Energy, for believing in the PDETs and for fulfilling this project that the communities requested in their initiatives. I am glad to be here because we continue in the implementation of the Peace with Legality policy, it is noteworthy that all this is not achieved without the articulation and permanent work of all our allies, and we must highlight the will of Gran Tierra Energy to comply with the PDET with the Mechanism of Works for PDET Taxes. We are complying and we will continue working to make this an irreversible process”, said the Director of the Territory Renewal Agency, Juan Carlos Zambrano Arciniegas, during the event, which was held in Puerto Caicedo.

With these two projects for kitchen equipment and furniture provision the institutions and educational centers of Putumayo, it contributes to the permanence and prevention of school dropouts, and improves the food and nutritional situation of the students. Rectors and professors believe that there is a strong connection between a student's development and food safety.

In this regard, the Director of Strengthening Territorial Management of the Ministry of Education, Javier Medina, stated that “being able to include and link companies to join these initiatives in geographically distant municipalities or that have historically been affected by the conflict has a

very special meaning, since it allows us all to be on the same side and focus on the same goal: the development and growth of our children.”

Since 2020, Gran Tierra Energy has invested more than COP\$10 billion in the PDET municipalities of Putumayo. Projects include the installation of sanitation units for rural families and infrastructure improvements in local schools and rural roads.

"Gran Tierra Energy will continue to support the National Government's stabilization agenda and continues to work towards improving the quality of life for the communities neighbouring our operations by providing job opportunities, supporting entrepreneurs and through mechanisms like Works for Taxes, that establish and cultivate sustainable futures for local residents. Through these two projects alone, 65 schools and 2,581 people in Puerto Caicedo and 87 schools and 9,582 people in Orito will benefit", stated Manuel Buitrago, President and Country Manager of Gran Tierra Energy.

The company is also fully committed to supporting the peace building efforts led by Government of Colombia in post-conflict regions. In the Putumayo specifically, Gran Tierra supports initiatives led by the Office of the Presidential Advisor for Stabilization and Normalization and its agencies, such as the Territory Renewal Agency (ART) and the Agency for Reincorporation and Standardization (ARN) and will continue to support initiatives that build towards better futures for local communities.

PDET Work for Taxes

It is a mechanism through which businessmen and individuals, taxpayers of income tax, can design and implement projects to improve the living conditions of the communities of the municipalities most affected by poverty and violence in Colombia.

Taxpayers who invest in areas affected by violence have the opportunity to carry out social impact works, actively participating in the transformation of the regions that require their commitment as participants in their development, advance their social responsibility policies and strengthen the ties of trust with the communities where they operate.

Likewise, these works stimulate investment in the territories, energize the economy and enhance the region. With this, they become key actors who contribute directly to peacebuilding. Through this mechanism, 77 projects have been developed with a total investment of \$ 613 billion to stabilize the PDET municipalities.